



SOUTH AMERICA: In southern Brazil, unseasonably heavy showers (30-80 mm) covered northern Parana, eastern Mato Grosso do Sul, Goias, Sao Paulo, and Minas Gerais, boosting soil moisture for early corn planting and coffee and citrus flowering. These regions do not usually receive moderate to heavy rain this early in the season. In fact, in Goias and Minas Gerais, weekly rain typically averages less than 10 mm per week in early September. Across Rio Grande do Sul, eastern Santa Catarina, and eastern Parana, little or no rain reduced soil moisture for reproductive to filling winter wheat. Rio Grande do Sul is typically the wettest portion of southern Brazil during September. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C below normal across the Goias, Minas Gerais, and Sao Paulo and 1 to 2 degrees C above normal in Rio Grande do Sul. In Argentina, light to moderate rain (10-40 mm) fell across southern Santa Fe and eastern Buenos Aires, increasing soil moisture for vegetative winter wheat. In southern Cordoba, mostly dry weather reduced soil moisture for vegetative winter wheat. Dry weather also continued across northern Argentina, where rain is needed for cotton pre-planting fieldwork. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across central Argentina, with the lowest temperatures ranging from 0 to -3 degrees C confined to south-central Buenos Aires. According to the Argentine Agriculture Secretariat, as of September 8, a majority of tillering winter wheat is in good condition with adequate soil moisture. The only concern is the lack of rainfall in Cordoba, where winter wheat had started to yellow. Sunflower planting began in Santiago del Estero and northern Santa Fe.